



Montana Department of  
**ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY**

Brian Schweitzer, Governor

P. O. Box 200901

Helena, MT 59620-0901

(406) 444-2544

Website: [www.deq.mt.gov](http://www.deq.mt.gov)

**PUBLIC NOTICE NO. MT-11-24**  
**September 19, 2011**

PURPOSE OF PUBLIC NOTICE

The purpose of this notice is to state the Department's intention to issue a wastewater discharge permit to the facility listed in this notice. This permit is issued by the Department under the authority of 75-5-402, Montana Code Annotated (MCA); the Administrative Rules of Montana (ARM) 17.30.1301 *et seq.*, Montana Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (MPDES); and Sections 402 and 303 of the Federal Clean Water Act. The Water Protection Bureau has prepared a draft permit for the facility listed below. Copies of the draft permit, statement of basis, and environmental assessment are available upon request from the Water Protection Bureau or on the Department's website [www.deq.mt.gov](http://www.deq.mt.gov).

APPLICANT INFORMATION

APPLICANT: Glacier National Park  
P.O. Box 128  
West Glacier, MT 59936

FACILITY NAME: Lake McDonald Wastewater Treatment Plant

FACILITY LOCATION: Township 32N, Range 19W, Section 26, L1  
1 Wastewater Lane  
West Glacier, MT 59936

RECEIVING WATER: Outfall 001: Groundwater hydrologically connected to  
McDonald Creek and the Middle Fork Flathead River

PERMIT NUMBER: MT0030601

This notice is for renewal of the Montana Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (MPDES) permit for the Lake McDonald Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) in serving the west side of Glacier National Park and discharging to groundwater hydrologically connected to McDonald Creek and the Middle Fork Flathead River (MFFR). The WWTP is a tertiary system including sequencing batch reactors and ultraviolet disinfection serving seasonal park visitors and year-round park service personnel. McDonald Creek is an Outstanding Resource Water of the state. Both McDonald Creek and the MFFR are classified as A-1 waterbodies. No mixing zone is proposed to be granted for the facility. The facility is subject to state non-degradation requirements. Technology-based effluent limits for biological oxygen demand and total suspended solids are proposed. Water quality based effluent limits are proposed for

*Escherichia coli* bacteria, total ammonia as N, total nitrogen as N, and total phosphorus as P. Monitoring of parameters for both effluent and background water are proposed.

On September 21, 2000, a U.S. District Judge issued an order stating that until all necessary total maximum daily loads under Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act are established for a particular water quality limited segment, the State is not to issue any new permits or increase permitted discharges under the MPDES program. The order was issued in the lawsuit *Friends of the Wild Swan v. U.S. EPA, et al.*, CA 97-35-M-DWM, District of Montana, Missoula Division. The DEQ finds that the issuance of this proposed permit does not conflict with the order because the discharge does not constitute a new or increased source.

#### PUBLIC COMMENT

Public comments are invited ANYTIME PRIOR TO CLOSE OF BUSINESS October 19, 2011. Comments may be directed to the DEQ Permitting & Compliance Division, Water Protection Bureau, PO Box 200901, Helena, MT 59620. All comments received or postmarked PRIOR TO CLOSE OF BUSINESS October 19, 2011, will be considered in the formulation of final determinations to be imposed on the permits. If you wish to comment electronically, you may e-mail Noelle Uncles or Barb Sharpe at [WPBPublicNotices@mt.gov](mailto:WPBPublicNotices@mt.gov).

During the public comment period provided by the notice, the Department will accept requests for a public hearing. A request for a public hearing must be in writing and must state the nature of the issue proposed to be raised in the hearing (ARM 17.30.1373).

The Department will respond to all substantive comments and issue a final decision within sixty days of this notice or as soon as possible thereafter. Additional information may be obtained upon request by calling (406) 444-3080 or by writing to the aforementioned address. The complete administrative record, including permit application and other pertinent information, is maintained at the Water Protection Bureau office in Helena and is available for review during business hours.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY  
WATER PROTECTION BUREAU  
PO BOX 200901  
HELENA MT 59620-0901



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